GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5404
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
COOKED MEAL TO STUDENTS
CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the Supreme Court's Judgement No.196/2001 regarding 'start providing cooked meal instead of dry ration to the student in Government and Government aided Primary Schools' ;

(b) if so, steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether any State Government has given representation in this regard; and

(d) of so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b): Yes, sir. As the Hon'ble Court has directed States/UTs which are currently providing dry rations, to start providing cooked meals in all Government, Government aided primary schools in a time bound manner, the Central Government has requested these States/UTs to comply with the orders of the Apex court.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The Government has already conveyed to the States/UTs that under the scheme the cost of conversion of foodgrains into a cooked meal is to be borne by the States/Implementing Agencies. It has been explained to States/UTs that it would not be possible to provide additional funds to cover the conversion cost for preparing cooked meals unless adequate funds are made available for the scheme under the 10th Plan.